

THE CLAYTON ENTERPRISE.

Devoted to the Upbuilding of Clayton, Union County, and Country in General.

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FEDERAL OFFICERS.

Herbert J. Hagerman, Governor.

W. H. Andrews, Delegate to Congress.
C. M. Forker, Marshal.
J. W. Reynolds, Secretary.

THE hopeful tone expressed in the communication of our XIT correspondent certainly has the right ring; nothing is so helpful to a country, community or individual, as faith in its powers and possibilities; and on the other hand nothing is so harmful as continual "knocking" and this section of the country has a superabundance of "knockers" who are forever expressing pessimistic views for the future and bemoaning the "good old times" that are passed. Why, Union County is only in its infancy with a glorious maturity awaiting it, when its coal fields, oil wells, copper mines, and last but not least its wonderful agricultural resources, have been fully developed.

How the situation changes sometimes in the twinkling of an eye is wonderful. When the ENTERPRISE began the agitation of the incorporation of Clayton it did so at the strong solicitation of several of the business men of the town who were at that time very enthusiastic over Clayton becoming an incorporated town. After a strong petition headed by some of the men who are now making strenuous efforts to dissolve the incorporation, was filed in Commissioners court, when, after making some alterations in the proposed boundary of said town the order was made declaring Clayton an incorporated town, an election was ordered for the purpose of electing trustees of the town and still, up to a day or so prior to said election, all was peace, joy and happiness, but from that time on the waters became troubled, and about two weeks ago when the Trustees passed an ordinance taxing the various business concerns of the town, the pot boiled over. Now, as to the tax question the main kick seems to be on the \$5.00 tax each month against the general merchandise houses. If we are correctly informed these same houses have each been contributing \$10 a month to a sum for the payment of a night watchman. The City proposes to put both a day and night police on duty, thereby giving double the service for one-half the expenditure. These same men tell us they favor incorporation. This is just about a fair statement all the way through with the anti's. The question is asked what does the city government want with all this money? The town is badly in need of fire protection first, which will cost a considerable amount of money, next the streets need repairing, and numerous other things which we could mention. After the first of January, if the citizens "kape easy" we have every reason to believe that the taxes can be lowered materially and we would all be proud of our little city. The men who are officers of the town, both elective and appointive are from among

our own people, men who are not trying to impose a hardship on anyone. Instead of trying to tear down, my fellow citizen, let us all attend the meetings of the Trustees understand each other better and all give our views in these contended matters, and we will venture an assertion that all will be well in a short time.

From Our Superintendent of Public Instruction.

SANTA FE, AUGUST 10, 1904.
TO THE FRIENDS OF EDUCATION IN NEW MEXICO:

It is impossible for me to meet many of you personally. I believe I feel an honest interest in the education of the youth of New Mexico. I have some things to say that I think are worth saying, and I know of no way to present them except by printed letter. This is my apology for addressing you in this manner. I shall attempt to be brief.

Were it necessary I could convince you that no other interest in New Mexico is equal in importance to that of education. The genuine success your children will attain in life will depend upon the amount and kind of education they receive. The ignorant man is the servant of those who are better educated than he is. He initiates nothing. From imitation alone he does what he is told to do and there his power ends. With little trouble I could introduce you to several native young men who are filling responsible and honorable positions and are receiving from \$1,000.00 to \$2,500.00 per year, simply because of the education they possess. Their boyhood companions who are not educated, are working at hard manual labor (when they find employment) at about one dollar per day. How do you wish it to be with your boy when he becomes a man? You must choose. Nobody will dictate to you.

As election time is near at hand, I wish to speak to you about the County Superintendent; and I wish it distinctly understood that I am not criticising anything of the past or finding any fault with the services of any county superintendent. For small compensation, they have much work to do, and many of them have been faithful. I am simply looking to the future and hoping that in every respect our educational interests shall not only hold their present status but steadily advance.

In my opinion, the county superintendent is the most important factor in the administration of our school affairs. Now, a superintendent—whether it be of a machine shop, a farm, a sheep ranch, or a system of schools, should be one who so thoroughly understands that particular line of business that he can in reality superintend it.

All superintendents, except the school superintendent, get their positions because they have a practical knowledge of all the details of the business, and are competent to direct all subordinate employees. Real superintendents are hence few in number. Great business opportunities are seeking such. They want persons who understand their special lines of business.

If we expect our educational interests to advance we must employ the same principles. There is no dodging this issue. When you

vote for county superintendent you are voting for or against the interests of your own children. Therefore, I advise you to throw every other consideration to one side, and applying all reasonable tests, select the best available person for superintendent. I say "available," because we cannot always get the ones we believe to be best. I say "person," because I know no law that debar women from accepting this office; and I do know that many women are better qualified for this office than most available men are.

Now, what are some of the tests of availability and qualification?

First—The person should possess unblemished moral character, and know the school and the school business so well that he is at home in the school room, and could personally take hold and do well most of the work required of teachers.

Second—He should not be so engrossed in other business that he cannot and will not give the work of the superintendent the attention necessary to secure success. An ignorant man who gives his whole heart and service to the work secures better results than the better qualified one who simply signs receipts for his salary.

Third—The superintendent should be a person of such interest and enthusiasm that he will give the work necessary attention.

Fourth—He should have good business judgment and experience, as such are required.

How shall such be obtained?

There is but one way. Let politicians "bury the hatchet" so far as this office is concerned, and let all parties and factions, in a friendly, communal way, hunt for, unite on, and select the best. They can continue to select the superintendent for political reasons if they so choose, but so long as they do they are simply bartering the present and eternal interests of children for the paltry, selfish, temporary triumph of a political faction. Is it not time to take a broader, more sensible view? Is not the education of children too sacred to trifle with? The compensation of county superintendent is so small that it cannot be correctly called "spoils of office." If you wish, "farm out" the other offices political fashion; but make an exception of that of superintendent. My advice is, let all parties consult together and select the best. If your present superintendent fills the bill, as shown by past work, retain him; if he does not, retire him. The idea of divorcing politics from education is being rapidly embraced in various parts of the United States. Even in Pennsylvania, Dr. N. C. Schaefer, a democrat, is serving his third term of four years each as superintendent of public instruction. Will not New Mexico at once jump to the front and act according to the same principle? The above is my advice; do just as you please. I have done my duty.

HIRAM HADLEY,
Supt. of Public Instruction.

Bulls For Sale.

I have for sale twenty five yearling bulls, very high grade. Here fords, practically thoroughbreds, all fine big boned, well marked animals. May be seen at my ranch.

FRED I. BURCH,
Clayton N. M.

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Condensed Report of The First National Bank of Clayton, N. M.

As rendered to the Comptroller of Currency.
At the close of business June 18, 1906

RESOURCES

Loans and Discounts	\$192,129.27
Overdrafts	339.63
U. S. Bonds	68,400.00
Furniture and Fixtures	2,375.92
Cash and Sight Exchange	49,954.82
	\$313,499.62

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$75,000.00
Circulation	50,000.00
Deposits	177,708.88
Other Liabilities—Including Surplus and Profits	10,791.24
	\$313,499.62

The above statement is correct to the best of my knowledge.
N. E. WHITWORTH, Cashier.

CHAS. A. LAW, LAND LAWYER.

Office at Clayton Building,
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